

total of \$7.4 billion—nearly double the current amount—for IT funding for High-Performance Computing and Communications, Next Generation Internet, and new IT research programs at the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Institute for Standards and Technology, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act passed the House unanimously in February and is now being included in H.R. 4940 with some additions requested by the Senate. It is supported by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Business Software Alliance, TechNet, the Information Technology Association of America, and the Council of Scientific Society Presidents. I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 4940 and ensure America's role as the global leader in high-end computing and technological innovation.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HANSEN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4940, as amended.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

WARTIME VIOLATION OF ITALIAN AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES ACT

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 2442) to provide for the preparation of a Government report detailing injustices suffered by Italian Americans during World War II, and a formal acknowledgment of such injustices by the President.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendments:

Page 3, line 11, strike out "Inspector" and insert "Attorney".

Page 3, line 11, strike out "of the Department of Justice".

Page 5, line 7, strike out "why some" and insert "whether".

Page 5, line 9, strike out "while" and insert "and if so, why".

Page 7, strike out line 1

Page 7, line 2, before "The" insert: (5)

Page 7, line 2, strike out "shall" and insert "should".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. BONO) and the gen-

tleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. BONO).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on November 10, 1999, the House passed H.R. 2442 by voice vote. The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, stated then that few people know that during World War II approximately 600,000 Italian Americans in the United States were deprived of their civil liberties by government measures that branded them "enemy aliens." In fact, on December 7, 1941, hours after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the FBI took into custody hundreds of Italian-American resident aliens previously classified as dangerous and shipped them to camps where they were imprisoned until Italy surrendered in 1943.

As so-called enemy aliens, Italian-American resident aliens were required to carry special identification booklets at all times, and they were forced to turn into the government such items as shortwave radios, cameras, and flashlights. Those suspected of retaining these items had their homes raided by FBI agents.

In California, about 52,000 Italian-American resident aliens were subjected to a curfew that confined them to their homes between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. and a travel restriction that prohibited them from traveling further than 5 miles from their homes. These measures made it difficult, if not impossible, for some Italian Americans to travel to their jobs, and thousands were arrested for violations of these and other restrictions.

Then, on February 24, 1942, 10,000 Italian-American resident aliens living in California were ordered by the Federal Government to evacuate coastal and military zones. Most of those had to abandon their homes, some of whom were taken away in wheelchairs and on stretchers. Later in the fall of 1942, about 25 Italian-American citizens were ordered to evacuate these areas.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2442, the "War-time Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act," requires the Department of Justice to conduct a comprehensive review of the Federal Government's treatment of Italian Americans during World War II and to submit to the Congress a report that documents the findings of that review.

In addition, H.R. 2442 encourages Federal agencies, including the Department of Education and the National Endowment for the Humanities, to sup-

port, among other things, conferences, seminars, and lectures to heighten awareness of the injustices committed against Italian Americans.

The Senate amendments are mostly technical in nature. The bill, as amended by the Senate, would leave it to the Attorney General as opposed to the Inspector General of the Justice Department to conduct a comprehensive review of the government's treatment of Italian Americans during World War II. The House version of the bill directs the President to acknowledge that these events occurred, whereas the Senate version provides that it is the sense of Congress that the President should fully acknowledge them.

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 2442 as amended by the Senate and urge members to vote in favor of H.R. 2442.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this important bipartisan measure that acknowledges the indignities and discriminations suffered by Italian Americans during World War II. I thank the gentlewoman from California for her leadership, particularly on this very special day.

Of course, I will always remember the vital role that America's greatest generation played in defeating the threats to democracy and freedom abroad during World War II. At the same time, we must never forget that in its zeal to defeat foreign tyrants, the United States Government did a great disservice to democracy by violating the civil rights and civil liberties of hundreds of thousands of Italian-born immigrants here at home.

Simply because of their nationality, Italian Americans were labeled "enemy aliens." More than 600,000 of these citizens were forced to carry identification cards, had their personal property seized, and their freedom of travel restricted. Tens of thousands of other Italian Americans were forced from their homes, placed under curfews, and prohibited from entering coastal areas of our country, and many others were arrested and even interned in military camps.

Unfortunately, most Americans today are not even aware of this tragic chapter in our history. This is why the legislation is so important, because it will allow a full airing of the story of the treatment of Italian Americans during World War II to be told. In telling the story, the legislation would require the Attorney General to conduct a comprehensive review of the government's treatment of Italian Americans that would identify by name those Italian Americans who were innocent victims of discrimination. They are the grandparents, the parents, and cousins of millions of Italian Americans in America today.

We must learn from our history, even when that history shows our national government failed to uphold values underpinning our democracy, so that we

do not subject future generations of Americans to senseless and unlawful deprivations of their civil liberties in the name of national security.

However, this legislation has another important purpose. It also provides an opportunity for the United States Government, through the President, to officially acknowledge that discrimination against Italian Americans during World War II represented a fundamental injustice toward Italian Americans. Such an acknowledgment will follow other historic and important acts of official contrition, such as President Clinton's official apology for this Nation's role in the African slave trade and our treatment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

Part of fulfilling the promise of our democracy requires owning up to our past. By passing this bill, we tell Italian Americans and, by extension, all Americans, that equality under the law includes honesty about our history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT).

(Mr. BOEHLERT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support for H.R. 2442, the Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act. This bill is one that is very important to me, my constituents, and Italian-Americans across the nation. I want to thank my good friend, RICK LAZIO, for introducing this bill, along with Congressman ENGEL.

Much has been written about the internment of 100,000 Japanese-Americans during World War II, but the injustices suffered by Italian-Americans are less well known. During World War II, approximately 600,000 Italian-born immigrants in the United States were branded "enemy aliens" by the federal government. While thousands of Italian-Americans were fighting for our country in Europe and the Pacific, Italian-Americans who were deemed "enemy aliens" were losing their homes, jobs and businesses. Entire Italian-American communities on the West Coast were evacuated. Yet fifty years later, theirs is a largely untold story.

H.R. 2442 will require the Department of Justice to conduct an extensive study on the treatment of Italian-Americans in the United States during World War II, and encourage educational projects to heighten public awareness, and it calls on the President to formally acknowledge this shameful episode in our nation's history.

Such an acknowledgment is long overdue. It is high time that our nation recognize the enormous contributions of Italian-Americans and the discrimination and loss of basic rights that many of them faced.

Doing so will not only help make amends to the specific individuals who suffered, but it will

strengthen the fabric of American society which is damaged whenever one segment of the American people is cut off and subjected to discrimination.

I urge my colleagues to support Mr. LAZIO's bill.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I first want to thank the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Mr. HYDE, and the Ranking Member, Mr. CONYERS, for their efforts in bringing HR 2442 to the floor again today. With the recent passage of the Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act in the Senate, I look forward to sending this bill to the President. I have worked on this legislation with my colleague from New York, Mr. LAZIO, and I am proud to be here today to express my support for its passage.

On December 7, 1941, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, and the United States entered World War II. What has been overlooked since that day is the fact that many Italian Americans suddenly became "enemy aliens". Loyal Italian American patriots who had fought alongside the United States Armed Forces in World War I, mothers and fathers of U.S. troops, even women and children were suspected of being dangerous and subversive. With this new enemy alien status, Italians were subjected to strict curfew regulations, forced to carry photo ID's and could not travel further than a 5 mile radius from their homes without prior approval. Furthermore, many Italian fishermen were forbidden from using their boats in prohibited zones. Since fishing was the only means of income for many families, households were torn apart or completely relocated as alternative sources of income were sought.

It is difficult to believe that over 10,000 Italians deemed enemy aliens were forcibly evacuated from their homes and over 52,000 were subject to strict curfew regulations. Ironically, over 500,000 Italians were serving in the United States Armed Forces fighting to protect the liberties of all Americans, while many of their family members had their basic freedoms revoked.

When we first started working on this legislation we had vague accounts of mostly anonymous Italians who were subjected to these civil liberties abuses. However, throughout this process we have come in contact with many Italians who experienced the internment ordeal first hand. Dominic DiMaggio testified at a Judiciary Committee hearing about his dismay when he returned from the war to find that his mother and father were enemy aliens. Doris Pinza, wife of international opera star Ezio Pinza, also testified at the hearing about her husband who was only weeks away from obtaining U.S. citizenship when he was classified as an enemy alien and detained at Ellis Island. It still saddens me to think that Ellis Island, the world renowned symbol of freedom and democracy, was used as a holding cell for Italians. There is even documented evidence of Italians being interned in camps at Missoula, Montana.

Mr. Speaker, we must ensure that these terrible events will never be perpetrated again. We must safeguard the individual rights of all Americans from arbitrary persecution or no American will ever be secure. The least our government can do is try to right these terrible wrongs by acknowledging that these events did occur. While we cannot erase the mistakes of the past, we must try to learn from them in

order to ensure that we never subject anyone to the same injustices.

The Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act calls for the Department of Justice to publish a report detailing the unjust policies of the government during this time period. Essential to the report will be a study examining ways to safeguard individual rights during national emergencies.

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to the Italian American community, especially those who endured these abuses, to recognize the injustices of the past. Documentation and education about the suffering of all groups of Americans who face persecution is important in order to ensure that no group's civil liberties are ever violated again. I am pleased to support this legislation and urge its swift passage.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Congressman RICK LAZIO for bringing this bill to our national attention. I was shocked when I first heard of these abuses against one of the most loyal segments of our society. This secret story, this secret history of wartime restrictions on Italian Americans living in the United States has been hidden from the American history books. I first learned of this situation when Anthony La Piana, a constituent from my district, came to visit me last year and told me of the events after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and how the FBI took hundreds of Italian American resident aliens and sent them to camps for the duration of the war. I wondered how many people have never heard of these terrible abuses. This bill does not put the question of reparations or looking for money or anything like that before us. It is simply a matter of the truth has been obscured and it ought not be obscured. The truth has to be told.

During the war, Italian American resident aliens were forced to carry special photo-identification booklets at all times, and required to turn over to the government any shortwave radios, cameras or flashlights. During this time in California, approximately 52,000 Italian American resident aliens were subject to curfews and travel restrictions that made it difficult, if not impossible to travel to their jobs. In February 1942, thousands were ordered evacuated by the government from coastal and military zones.

One of the witnesses before the House Judiciary Committee, Professor Lawrence DiStasi, Executive Director, Order Sons of Italy in America, initiated the process of educating the country about this unspoken chapter of American history. He was instrumental in the early 1990's by working with the American Italian Historical Association's Western Regional Chapter to create a touring exhibit titled, "Una Storia Segreta," (the words in Italian mean both "a secret story" and "a secret history"). This touring educational exhibit, which also has an Internet web site, displays collected photographs, artifacts, letters written by victims, family belongings, posters, memorabilia, and papers. These items provide tangible documentation of the treatment of Italian Americans who endured the confusion, indignity, and losses of World War II, for the most part, in silence. I urge you to support H.R. 2442, as amended by the Senate, and urge Members to vote in favor of this bill.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as an original cosponsor of the bill, I am pleased to rise as an original cosponsor of the Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act.

H.R. 2442 will officially acknowledge the denial of human rights and freedoms of Italian Americans during World War II by the United States government. While many Americans know the sad history of our nation's treatment of Japanese-Americans following Pearl Harbor and our entry into World War II, remarkably few Americans know that shortly after that attack, the attention and concern of the U.S. government was similarly focused on Italian-Americans. More than 600,000 Italian Americans were determined to be enemy aliens by their own government. More than 10,000 were forcibly evicted from their homes, 52,000 were subject to strict curfew regulations, and hundreds were shipped to internment camps. Constitutional guarantees of due process were unrecognized.

Although they had family members whose basic rights had been revoked, more than a half million Italian Americans served this nation with honor and valor to defeat fascism during World War II. Thousands made the ultimate sacrifice.

The Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act directs the Department of Justice to prepare a comprehensive report detailing the unjust policies against Italian Americans during this period of American history. It is vital to the foundations of our democratic governance that the people be fully informed of these devastating actions. This legislation recognizes the thousands of innocent victims, and honors those who suffered. In a country that so cherishes its equality, we must recognize and atone for the mistakes of our past.

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. BONO) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 2442.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendments were concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION ACT OF 2000

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3312) to clarify the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 1996 to authorize the Merit Systems Protection Board to establish under such Act a 3-year pilot program that will provide a voluntary early intervention alternative dispute resolution process to assist Federal agencies and employees in resolving certain personnel actions and disputes in administrative programs, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3312

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Merit Systems Protection Board Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

(1) The Congress finds the following:

(1) Workplace disputes waste resources of the Federal Government, take up too much time, and deflect managers and employees from their primary job functions.

(2) The Merit Systems Protection Board (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Board") has already taken steps to encourage agency use of ADR before appeals are filed with the Board, including extending the regulatory time limit for filing appeals when the parties agree to try ADR, but high levels of litigation continue.

(3) The Board's administrative judges, who decide appeals from personnel actions by Federal agencies, find that by the time cases are formally filed with the Board, the positions of the parties have hardened, communication between the parties is difficult and often antagonistic, and the parties are not amenable to open discussion of alternatives to litigation.

(4) Early intervention by an outside neutral, after the first notice of a proposed action by an agency but before an appeal is filed with the Board, will allow the parties to explore settlement outside the adversarial context. However, without the encouragement of a neutral provided without cost, agencies are reluctant to support an early intervention ADR program.

(5) A short-term pilot program allowing the Board, upon the joint request of the parties, to intervene early in a personnel dispute is an effective means to test whether ADR at that stage can resolve disputes, limit appeals to the Board, and reduce time and money expended in such matters.

(6) The Board is well equipped to conduct a voluntary early intervention pilot program testing the efficacy of ADR at the initial stages of a personnel dispute. The Board can provide neutrals who are already well versed in both ADR techniques and personnel law. The Board handles a diverse workload including removals, suspensions for more than 14 days, and other adverse actions, the resolution of which entails complex legal and factual questions.

SEC. 3. MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 5 OF TITLE 5.—Chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding immediately after section 584 the following:

"§ 585. Establishment of voluntary early intervention alternative dispute resolution pilot program for Federal personnel disputes

"(a) IN GENERAL.—

"(1) The Board is authorized under section 572 to establish a 3-year pilot program to provide Federal employees and agencies with voluntary early intervention alternative dispute resolution (in this section referred to as 'ADR') processes to apply to certain personnel disputes. The Board shall provide ADR services, upon joint request of the parties, in matters involving removals, suspensions for more than 14 days, other adverse actions under section 7512, and removals and other actions based on unacceptable performance under section 4303.

"(2) The Board shall test and evaluate a variety of ADR techniques, which may include—

"(A) mediation conducted by private neutrals, Board staff, or neutrals from appropriate Federal agencies other than the Board;

"(B) mediation through use of neutrals agreed upon by the parties and credentialed under subsection (c)(5); and

"(C) non-binding arbitration.

"(b) EARLY INTERVENTION ADR.—

"(1) AUTHORITY.—The Board is authorized to establish an early intervention ADR proc-

ess, which the agency involved and employee may jointly request, after an agency has issued a notice letter of a proposed action to an employee under section 4303 or 7513 but before an appeal is filed with the Board.

"(2) NOTICE IN PERSONNEL DISPUTES.—During the term of the pilot program, an agency shall, in the notice letter of a proposed personnel action under section 4303 or 7513—

"(A) advise the employee that early intervention ADR is available from the neutral Board, subject to the standards developed pursuant to subsection (c)(1)(A), and that the agency and employee may jointly request it; and

"(B) provide a description of the program, including the standards developed pursuant to subsection (c)(1)(A).

"(3) REQUEST.—Any agency and employee may seek early intervention ADR from the Board by filing a joint request with the Board pursuant to the program standards adopted under subsection (c)(1)(A). All personnel dispute matters appealable to the Board under section 4303 or 7513 shall be eligible for early intervention ADR, upon joint request of the parties, unless the Board determines that the matter is not appropriate for the program subject to any applicable collective bargaining agreement established under chapter 71.

"(4) CONFIDENTIALITY AND WITHDRAWAL.—The consent of an agency or an employee with respect to an early intervention ADR process is confidential and shall not be disclosed in any subsequent proceeding. Either party may withdraw from the ADR process at any time.

"(5) ANCILLARY MATTER.—In any personnel dispute accepted by the Board for the ADR pilot program authorized by this section, the Board may attempt to resolve any ancillary matter which the Board would be authorized to decide if the personnel action were effected under section 4303 or 7513, including—

"(A) a claim of discrimination as described in section 7702(a)(1)(B);

"(B) a prohibited personnel practice claim as described in section 2302(b); or

"(C) a claim that the agency's action is or would be, if effected, not in accordance with law.

"(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—

"(1) PROGRAM DUTIES.—In carrying out the program under this section, the Board shall—

"(A) develop and prescribe standards for selecting and handling cases in which ADR has been requested and is to be used;

"(B) take such actions as may be necessary upon joint request of the parties, including waiver of all statutory, regulatory, or Board imposed adjudicatory time frames; and

"(C) establish a time target within which it intends to complete the ADR process.

"(2) EXTENSION.—The Board, upon the joint request of the parties, may extend the time period as it finds appropriate.

"(3) ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH.—The Board shall conduct briefings and other outreach, on a non-reimbursable basis, aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of the ADR program on the part of the Federal workforce—including executives, managers, and other employees.

"(4) RECRUITMENT.—The Chairman of the Board may contract on a reimbursable basis with officials from other Federal agencies and contract with other contractors or temporary staff to carry out the provisions of this section.

"(5) TRAINING AND CREDENTIALLING OF NEUTRALS.—The Board shall develop a training and credentialing program to ensure that all individuals selected by the Board to serve as program neutrals have a sufficient understanding of the issues that arise before the Board and are sufficiently skilled in the